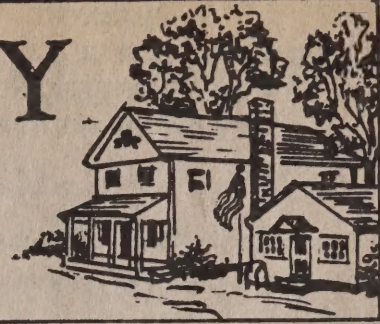


MONTEREY

NEWS

MAY 1986



Planning Board Proposes Changes To Zoning Bylaws

MONTEREY — The Planning Board has proposed a number of changes to the Zoning Bylaws on this town meeting's warrant. The following is a brief explanation of what they involve:

ARTICLE 29 is basically the wording which gave us the moratorium on multi-family construction in the Fall of '84, but without the time restriction. It continues to allow conversions of existing single-family dwellings to two-family dwellings as under the present bylaw, but no new multi-family construction would be allowed. The board presents this option in response to the wish expressed by some citizens to ban multi-family dwellings in Monterey, even though the board itself does not favor this option. If you want to ban all multi-family dwelling construction except the conversions presently allowed, vote for this article; if you favor including multi-family housing as a possibility in Monterey, vote no on this article.

The following articles contain bylaw changes which the Planning Board does recommend.

ARTICLE 30 inserts a definition for summer camps into the bylaw. Our present situation of a use allowed, but not defined, has created difficulties for the Board of Appeals.

ARTICLE 31 establishes the easterly boundary of the business district outside the old firehouse (on the east side) instead of through the middle of it. By request of the Selectmen.

ARTICLE 32 changes the multi-family dwelling requirements in the following ways:

Acreage — The old law requires two acres for a multi-family lot plus one acre for each unit thereupon, or 6 acres for 4 units, 8 acres for 6 units, etc.; the new law requires two acres for each unit of a multi-family project, or 8 acres for 4 units, 12 acres for 6 units, etc.

Frontage — The old law requires a multi-family lot to have 200 feet of road frontage, regardless of the number of units built; the new law requires 200 feet for the first unit plus 100 feet for each additional unit.

Nothing else would change in the multi-family regulations at this time—the maximum number of dwelling units per project is still 6, conversions are still allowed, and existing dwellings on lots that don't meet acreage, frontage and setback requirements may still convert to two-family dwellings. All multi-family projects would still be by Special Permit from the Board of Appeals.

ARTICLE 33 simply makes it clear that multi-family housing is allowed in the business district under the same regulations used in the ag/res district.

ARTICLE 34 changes the zoning requirements for land in our lakeshore district. The old law allows lots of 1 acre and 150 feet frontage, with 15 foot setbacks for buildings and structures; the new law requires lots to have 2 acres and 200 foot frontage and setbacks of 25 feet.

ARTICLE 35 corrects a typographical error in section numbering.

ARTICLE 36 gives the Conservation Commission power of review for structures as well as for buildings within 100 feet of wetlands, as mandated by the Wetlands Protection Act.

ARTICLE 37 includes the Conservation Commission in the Special Permit process.

ARTICLE 38 tells people where to get information on Board of Appeals applications.

A number of recommendations were made at the public hearing on these changes on April 10, and the Planning Board is in process of reviewing them with an eye to proposing slight modifications to these articles from the town meeting floor.

—Joe Baker

Republicans Hold Caucus Saturday

MONTEREY — The Monterey Republicans held their caucus on Saturday, March 22. The following people were nominated to run for local office.

Assessor: Michael Banner.

Auditor: Virgil Stucker.

Cemetery Committee: Harold Greene.

Constable: Raymond Tryon.

Finance Committee: Sheldon Fenn.

Library Trustees: Anne Marie Makuc and Judith Hayes.

Park Commissioner: Dek Tillett.

Moderator: Mark Makuc.

Planning Board: Clifford Myron Baker III.

Selectman: Rick Mielke.

Tax Collector: Henry Makuc.

Treasurer: Maryellen Brown.

Tree Warden: Roger Tryon.

WARRANT
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COUNTY OF BERKSHIRE, ss.
TOWN OF MONTEREY

To: Raymond W. Tryon, Constable of the Town of Monterey in the County of Berkshire,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the new firehouse of the Monterey Fire Company, Ltd., in said Town on Saturday, May 3, 1986, at 9:30 o'clock in the morning then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. — To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 5 voted at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 4, 1985, whereby the Town voted to appropriate from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$19,376 for the construction and/or improvement of Town roads, as requested by the Selectmen, to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the State Aid Highways Program, Chapter 191, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2. — To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 6 voted at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 4, 1985, whereby the Town voted to appropriate from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$19,094 for the construction and/or improvement of Town roads, as requested by the Selectmen, to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the State Aid Highways Program, Chapter 289, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3. — To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 7 voted at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 4, 1985, whereby the Town voted to appropriate from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$11,267 for the construction and/or improvement of Town roads, as requested by the Selectmen, to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the State Aid Highways Program, Chapter 234, by increasing the amount of \$11,267 to \$16,896, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4. — To see if the town will vote to transfer the sum of \$8,495 from Overlay Surplus to the Reserve Fund, thereby reducing the amount to be raised by taxation for the Reserve Fund to \$6,505, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5. — To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Clerk of said Town at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town of Monterey this 17th day of April, 1986.

Stefan Grotz, Chairman
Hans Kessler
Jed Lipsky

Why A Merger Study?

Several months ago, the Berkshire Hills and Southern Berkshire Regional School Districts met to discuss individual problems to see if a higher level of cooperation might bring about mutual solutions to these issues.

For the Berkshire Hills Regional School District (BHRSD), problems appear to lie with decreasing enrollment. Monument Mountain High School was initially built to educate 1,000 students. In 1978-79, the enrollment (grades 9-12) was 744. It has since experienced a gradual decrease to where it is presently (1985-86) 571 and is projected to further decline to the low 400's by 1990-91. These projections, done by the New England School Development Council and furnished to us by Superintendent Wood, show enrollment stabilization in the low 400's until 1993-94 at which date the projection ends.

We all know as pupil enrollment declines below a "critical mass" that per pupil costs increase and resources and services decrease. Obviously, a school with 400 students cannot provide the depth and range of curriculum and activities that a school with a 1,000 students can. The bottom line is that with more students, it is likely that a better education could be provided at Monument Mountain High School (MMHS).

In the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD), the problems put forth by Superintendent Consolati do not involve a lack of students, but actually an increasing enrollment and a lack of adequate classroom space. Sheffield Center, the district's major grammar school (K-4) is no longer an adequate teaching facility and requires either major renovation or replacement. There are presently serious considerations being given (architectural plans have already been drawn up) to building a new state-of-the-art elementary school facility on the Mount Everett High School (MEHS) campus. However, along with this is the problem (similar to what MMHS will soon face) of too small a high school. Even though the enrollment at MEHS is fairly stable (it will range between 265-342 over the next 12 years according to the projections), it is small, and what it can provide is limited because of that.

For the SBRSD, the bottom line is (1) how can they solve the physical plant problem with the grammar school, and (2) how can they improve their high school educational program.

The logical solution for everyone (although at this point a very superficial one and perhaps naive as well) would be to consummate some form of regionalization with the Southern Berkshire high school students (MEHS) melding with the high school students at the Berkshire Hills high school (MMHS). Then perhaps the MEHS could be remodeled to serve the necessary new grammar school facility for the SBRSD. Of course, it's not as simple as it sounds, but it certainly seems reasonable enough as a jumping-off place to do a STUDY.

For more information about this proposed study (not merger!), in-store pamphlets are available at the Monterey General Store and the Roadside Store, or call one of your school committee members.

PARK COMMISSION NEWS

We are accepting Applications for: a summer life-guard, a swimming instructor, a parking attendant and a garbage collector for the Town Beach. Call Debbie at 528-0864, Fran at 528-1233 or Steve at 528-2446.

Swimming classes have been poorly attended, so this year we hope to get the permission slips back early so that we may assess the situation, and be assured of a class large enough to merit the hiring of a teacher. I can't emphasize enough the importance of learning to swim and swim well! And when the opportunity is at hand. So make the effort and don't miss out! Slips will be at the Monterey General Store and Roadside Store or with the Commissioners, soon.

Children under 11 years old will not be allowed at the beach without an adult. This was our policy for many years, and has not been adhered to of late. We feel it is important to the safety of the beach and users to enforce it once again.

Looking forward to a great safe summer

—Debbie, Fran and Steve

P.S. We are going to hang onto outgoing Debbie as an honorary Park Commission member. Our duties are expanding and to have 4 heads and 8 hands will be a great help!

Dear Voters of the Town of Monterey:

It will be necessary for the Town of Monterey to have an Override for Fiscal 1987.

At the Annual Town Meeting on May 3, 1986, the voters will be asked to vote in favor of the Override. A two-thirds vote is required for passage.

In the past the town has been able to function under the restraints of Proposition 2 ½ without having to seek additional funds. This year, however, we find it impossible to meet our obligations without seeking additional funds. In addition to the normal growth of the Town and the allowable growth of the Tax Levy under Proposition 2 ½, the Town is experiencing an additional increase of \$165,000 in expenses which can only be covered by an Override.

The Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and the Board of Assessors invite all interested persons to an open informational meeting on May 1 in the Church basement at 7:30 p.m. to discuss these financial matters.

—Board of Selectmen

—Finance Committee

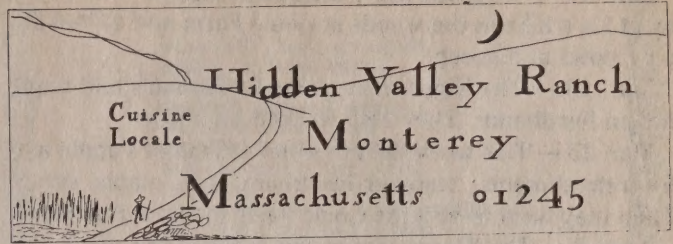
—Board of Assessors

Praying Mantis On A Park Bench

*Jewel-eyed invader, come to share my noon,
Skeletal smug spark of cosmic mirth;
Sharer, like me, of great creation's boon-
Inheritor of life and death and birth.*

—Dorothy E. Law

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YOUTH NEWS

TIGERS

Mar. 11 — the Tigers met at Jason Tanner's. Then they went for a hike in the woods at Gould Farm and visited the pigs, cows and sheep.

Mar. 18 — The Tigers met at Kevin Ohman's and made Indian headbands. They also worked on a skit.

Mar. 25 — This week the boys met at Tanner's again and for refreshments, enjoyed ice-cream with maple syrup. Then they went to visit the Gould Farm maple syrup house.

April 8 — The Tigers met at the Jassen's this week and after exploring the woods for awhile, the boys took a hike to the U.S. Fish Hatchery. They learned about salmon and helped to feed a tank of them.

WEBELOS

Last month, the boys took a trip to Pittsfield on the B-bus to visit the Berkshire Museum. They especially liked the aquarium and the rocks under black light. After lunch at Friendly's and some window shopping, they returned to Great Barrington on the bus.

This month, for their forestry and outdoorsman and naturalist pins, the boys have taken hikes. They saw many animals and birds and many signs of beaver. Meetings have been changed to Friday night. On their first Friday night meeting, they went to Benedict Pond to practice campfire starting and safety.

CUB SCOUTS

Last month the Cub Scouts were busy working towards their wolf badges. The first step towards the badge was to complete a wood-working project. The boys made and stained a recipe card holder. The Cubs then continued to work on their knot-tying skills. Sherry Mallory helped to work with the boys on their first aid skills: applying splints and slings. John Rooney from the New Marlboro VFW joined the Cubs one week to show them how to fold a flag.

Mr. Thomas Billard wishes to thank all the parents who have been participation and helping to make the Cub Scouts a great success.

The Cubs also welcome back Dominic Stucker who re-joined last month after moving back to Monterey from Virginia.

On Mar. 21, the Tigers, Wolves, Webelos and families gathered for a Cub Scout Blue and Gold dinner at the Harts-ville Grange. The Tiger Cubs performed a skit about the Cub Scout colors, the Wolves led the flag ceremony and the Webelos gave the invocation, the opening ceremony and the flag ceremony. Awards were also presented Michael Soncini, Colin Storti and Bill Goewey received Webelos badges.

JUNIORS

The Troop No. 66 took their scheduled trip to Boston for their Girl Scout overnight at the Boston Science Museum. The Girl Scout program, as always, was excellent. Each troop camped out in any area of the museum they wished. The museum put on a show for them called "Mind Games." The girls attended the workshops. One was prehistory, about dinosaurs. The other workshop was on waves. This included waves of water and sound. The next morning the girls attended the Planetarium show and the lightning show. They all had a great time!

The Juniors are now finishing up their stained glass projects and will go on to complete their badges. They are beginning to plan their awards ceremony.

—Katy Bradley

Karen Hayes Earns High Honors

MONTEREY — Karen Hayes, daughter of Judy and Arnie Hayes of Tyringham Road, was one 25 freshmen and sophomores cited by the President of Bridgewater State College for having the highest academic averages at the end of the fall semester.

Karen is a sophomore majoring in Industrial-Personnel Psychology.

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Nuclear Test Ban Resolution

The warrant for Town Meeting on May 3 will include a resolution to be forwarded to President Reagan and to our Senators and Representatives in support of an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union to forego the testing of nuclear weapons. Since the explosion of nuclear devices anywhere in the world is now verifiable, the resolution is presented as a "no-lose" proposition: any violation would be known immediately all over the world and the other signatories would be released from the agreement.

A similar resolution appears on the warrants of most of the towns of western Massachusetts for their spring meetings, as well.

Submitted by Susan McAllester

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Friday night, May 11, the Fire Department responded to a medical emergency at the Bearce residence.

On the following Sunday, Monterey joined Otis in a practice burn on the motel just over the Monterey-Otis line. The motel was set on fire and extinguished before it was burned to the ground.

April 23, we had our annual CPR refresher course.

TO ALL TOWN RESIDENTS: A PARK COMMISSION SURVEY

For the last two years the Park Commission, with the help of some Monterey citizens, has explored the possibility of building town tennis courts on suitable land. Before we go ahead with more time and energy in this project, we would like to know how you, the citizens of Monterey, feel about constructing town tennis courts.

Would you please fill out and return the following information below. Deposit this form at The General Store or mail to Steve Small, P.O. Box 27, Monterey, MA 01245

Thank you for your interest.



☐ I am interested in the idea of the construction of town tennis courts. I understand that this does not give the town license to build tennis courts at this time. Please keep me informed.

☐ I do not think the construction of Monterey tennis courts is a good idea.

signed _____

comments: _____

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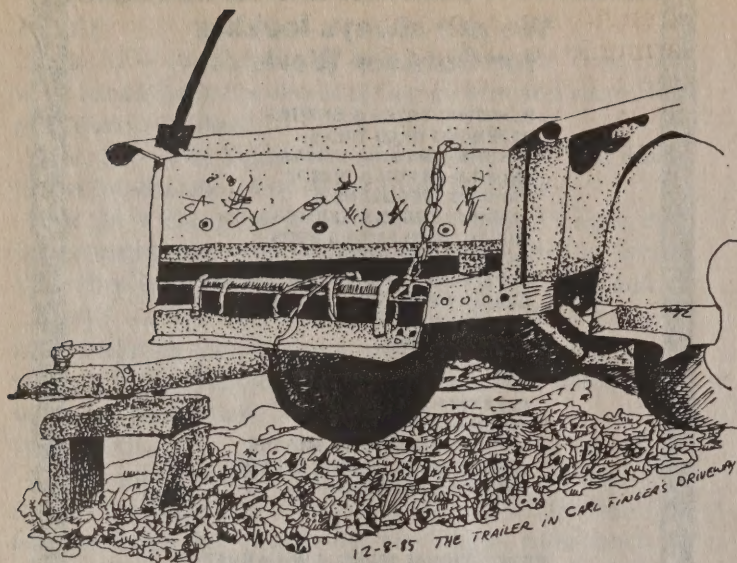
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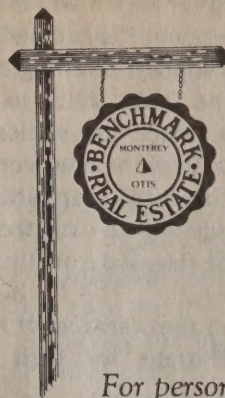
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The fee for this seminar is \$40.00. Registration will be limited to 30 and will close on June 7.

For further information on seminar participation or facility rental please write or call:
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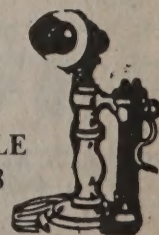
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An Early Record of the Hudson Valley

Until the 1640's, there was only one Dutch missionary in North America, in Manhattan. Up the Great North river in the province of Rensselaerwyck, the patroon, Kiliaen VanRensselaer, felt the need of religious instruction in his trading post, Beverwyck (Beavertown) which later was known as Fort Orange, and after the English takeover, as Albany. In August, 1642, the Rev. Johannes Megapolensis, Jr. arrived with his family, having been approved by the Amsterdam Chamber of the West India Company. His sketch, "Korte Ontwerp van de Mahakuase (Mohawk) Indianen in Nieuw Nederlandt," is one of the earliest eyewitness accounts of the Hudson Valley and the Indians who lived there. Here are some of his descriptions of the unspoiled countryside; in a later issue, I will present some of his observations on the Mohawks and the Mahicans.

"The country is very mountainous, some land, some rocks and so exceeding high that they appear to touch the clouds. Thereon grow the finest fir trees the eye ever saw...In the forests and in the wilderness along the water side...there grows an abundance of chestnuts, plums, hazelnuts, large walnuts of several sorts and of as good taste as in the Netherlands, but they have a somewhat harder shell. The land on the hills is covered with thickets of bilberries or blueberries; the ground in the flat land near the rivers is covered with strawberries which grow so plentifully in the fields that we go there and lie down and eat them. Vines also grow here naturally in great abundance along the roads, paths and creeks and you find them wherever you turn yourself...the grapes as good and sweet as in Holland...If we would cultivate the vines we might have as good wine here as they have in Germany or France. I had, myself, last harvest a boatload of grapes and pressed them. As long as the wine was new, it tasted better than French or Rhenish..."

"The year before I came here, there were so many turkeys and deer that they came to the houses and hog pens to feed, and were taken by the Indians with so little trouble that a deer was sold to the Dutch for a loaf of bread, or a knife, or even for a tobacco pipe...In the forests here, there are also many partridges, heath hens, and pigeons that fly in flocks of thousands and sometimes...even 40 and 50 are killed at one shot. We have here, too, a great number of all kinds of fowl, swans, geese, ducks, widgeons, teal, brant, which are taken by thousands upon the river in the spring of the year, and again in the autumn fly away in flocks, so that in the morning and evening anyone may stand ready with his gun before his house and shoot them as they fly past."

"In the soil there appears to be a singular strength and capacity for bearing a crop, for a farmer here told me that he had clean wheat off one and the same piece of land eleven years successively without ever breaking it up, or letting it lie fallow...Through this land runs an excellent river out of the Mahakas (Mahican) country about twelve miles north of us. The water is as clear as crystal, and as fresh as milk. In this river is a great plenty of several kinds of fish—pike, eels, perch, lampreys, suckers, catfish, sunfish, shad, bass, etc. In the spring, in May, the perch are so plenty, that one may with a hook and line catch in one hour as many as ten or twelve can eat. My boys have caught in less than an hour fifty, each a foot long. They have a three-pronged instrument with which they fish, and draw up frequently two or three perch at once."

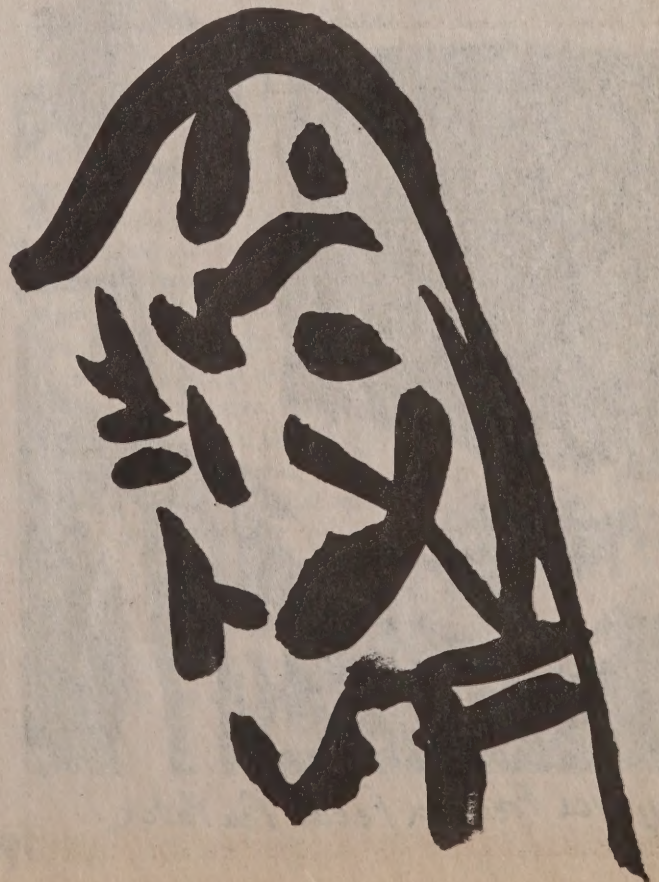
—David McAllester



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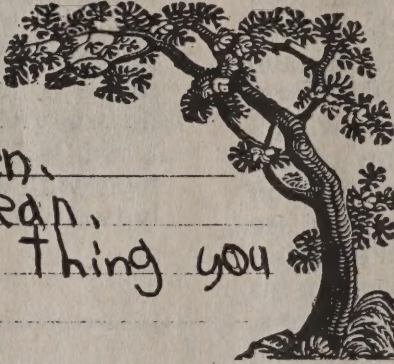
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trees are the best thing you
ever see,
trees are clean.



I Love trees.

by Wyatt Amidon
Age - 7 yrs.



Anjelica Freeman Feeds Pea Patch.

The Bird With Golden Hinges

On his 40th birthday, William the Ordinary, was caught trying to lug around gruesome news from his distant Past. Several well-meaning orioles fell out of the fundamental sky with red carpets on their bare feet.

"Sorry Bill," they sang in unison, "Today you are free to bake a pumpkin pie and serve it with fresh whipping cream to your loved ones or else take the day off and climb a mountain to the very top at dawn."

"But,

those little pictures you are holding in the back corner of your imagination, with their oozing news of remote distress have hatched already. One grew into the sore muscle at the base of your skull, another became a scrap of paper that Teddy His Royal Enchantment tied to his last kite and offered into yesterday's lightning storm in the name of world Peace."

The third was the delicate blue bird with golden hinges which came to you this morning while you were shaving. Do you remember?"

William the Ordinary, searched his clever interior with a fine-toothed comb and found nothing.

"I, I guess not" sighed William, 'shaving must have taken all my attention."

With such an admission all the orioles flew at once into his face and darted down his throat. When they got to his solar plexus, they screeched to a halt and found the delicate blue bird with the golden hinges.

"Here you are William" said the orioles, "May you steer by the miracle of your thoughts."

—S.D. Maye



*Gould Farm Volunteers give the center
of town its annual spring clean up.*

The Twi of Morning

*A violet of obvious royal descent
spoke to me today.
He told me that the wood-fly would
wait just one more week
and then with a grand entrance
announce the break of spring.
He also told me of the fairies
who played amongst last fall's leaves.
Stringing silken threads
from stem to leaf with sparkling
diamond dews, enstrung to keep
them from wisping away with
the morning breezes.
But the sun burned off the dew
and the forest awoke.
so silent seemed the king violet
for the birds twittered
and the mourning doves lowed.
"Till tomorrow," said the king in a hush,
"You'll find me here before all is
awake and the fairies will prance,
before the sun eats off my jeweled crown."*

—Marie Thompson



*Shawn Tryon has a birthday ride on 19th
century freight wagon built by grandpa Ray. 9*



The Woodcocks—Sky Dancers

The American woodcock, also called "bog sucker," "timberdoodle" or mud bat," is practically an invisible bird. Its camouflage coloring is so good that many a woodswalker has nearly stepped on one, and there are many accounts of woodcocks flying up suddenly, at the last minute, to careen a short distance through the woods before lighting again to disappear against the background of leaf litter.

In his journals, Thoreau has written of canoeing by a river bank and spotting what he took to be an odd clump of dead leaves on a mud flat. As he got closer, Thoreau thought maybe he was seeing the skeleton of a bird, yellowed with age. The woodcock, which weighs about 6 ounces and is the size of a large fist, is cinnamon and gray and is streaked with yellow in a fairly regular way which Thoreau mistook for a skeletal outline.

You may never see a woodcock, but if you want to look for one, this is the perfect time to do it. Some few individuals winter in southern Massachusetts, but most migrate south as far as Louisiana. These flocks are back now and are in the middle of their courtship and breeding time, with the males putting on their famous aerial displays at dawn and at dusk. They begin this ritual behavior in late March and keep it up, morning and evening, until late May. Then they become invisible again until the fall when they flock together and make their southward migration.

To find the male woodcock's singing grounds, look for a clearing with low brush nearby. Forbush (1925) recommends "low, damp, bosky places, bushy meadows, brakes or damp woodlands, but sometimes far up into the hills on any dry ground, even in an open pasture." At dawn or at dusk, when the light intensity is at .05 foot-candles (about half an hour after sunset), the "little whistler," as he is sometimes called, starts to strut.

He begins with his "on the ground" song, which sounds like "peent" or "beent" or even "bezeent." It is nasal and distinctive. William G. Sheldon, the man who wrote "Book of the American Woodcock" (1968), says, "each peent is preceded by the soft gurgle-like 'tuko,' uttered with the bill closed."

These peents go on at regular intervals for a short time and then suddenly the woodcock starts up, flying higher and higher in a spiral to as much as 300 feet. While he rises, air whistles through his three outer primaries (wing feathers) producing a twittering sound. Then he hovers, barely visible in the fading light, and gives his "sky song," a soft warbling which continues as he glides back to the ground on a zig-zag or a spiral course. If you see him start up, you can go and sit quietly near that spot during the display and have the thrill of his landing near you when he is finished. Male woodcocks always land very near their take-off place after each display.

Once back on the ground, the woodcock struts like a little turkey, his tail spread and his wings dragging. His head is tipped back so far that it nearly touches his fanned-out tail feathers and some people have seen him tripping over twigs and rough ground at this point, too caught up in his dramatic role to watch where he is going.

The female, hiding nearby, cannot fail to be impressed. After mating, she lays four eggs in a shallow nest and begins a 21-day incubation period. During this time, the male sometimes incubates also, and in bad weather, both parents may sit on the nest together. Since woodcocks nest on the ground and early, their nests are covered with snow sometimes. Generally, they are not able to dig away the snow, though their tracks show that they try.

When the chicks hatch, they are yellow with dark streaks. Their bills are short and they are quite dependent upon their mother, who actually carries them with her sometimes on her feet or held between her legs. As their bills lengthen and their plumage changes, the young woodcocks become able to feed themselves and to disappear instantly if danger threatens.

Woodcocks are closely related to sandpipers and are considered to be shorebirds, even though they live inland and feed almost exclusively on earthworms. They do need damp earth for feeding, but their ideal habitat includes a nearby dry upland for nesting. In the half-light of dawn and dusk, they begin probing for worms, driving their long bills 2 ½ or 3 inches into the ground. The tip of the bill is specially adapted with a soft integument that is sensitive to movement. It also can be opened underground, just at the tip, using a special set of muscles which bend the tip of the upper mandible back while the rest of the bill remains closed. The woodcock can punch its bill into the ground, feel a worm moving, grab it just with the tip of the bill, and pull it out to eat it.

People who have kept woodcocks in captivity have seen them stamp with their feet to stir up the worms underground. Then they listen, tipping their heads to the side, and suddenly stab down with their bills to grab a worm. Sometimes they may even lie down on the ground on their "bellies" and beat with their wings to frighten the worms into moving about.

I recommend an evening walk after sunset, in search of the invisible woodcock. I went myself, last night, since we have had one peenting in our garden recently. Though I



*MARY ELLEN BROWN
Candidate for treasurer*



*Robert Hadsell Keeper of the Monterey
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CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Masses Schedule

Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Immaculate Conception, Mill River
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship and Regular Meetings

Church school, Sunday at 10:30 during morning worship.
Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with childcare at same time in the Social Room. Choir rehearsal Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. Meditation and prayer, 7:30 a.m. in the Social Room. All are invited. Prayer Group, Thursdays, 7:45 p.m. at the home of Lucy Smith.

Contra and Square Dance Schedule for May

SATURDAY, MAY 10, Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30 - 11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel.

SATURDAY, MAY 24, Square and Contra Dance, New England style, at the Sheffield Grange. 8:30 - 11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have done it before. Joe Baker, calling, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults, \$3.50. Information 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

VNA SCHEDULE FOR MAY

The Southern Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association will hold its monthly Health Promotion Clinics at the following times and locations this month:

Heaton Court Stockbridge on MAY 7 from 1:00-3:00

Stockbridge Plain School on MAY 21 from 1:00-3:00

Otis Library on MAY 6 from 1:00-3:00

Dewey Memorial Hall, Sheffield on MAY 13 and MAY 27 from 1:00-3:00

Great Barrington Senior Center on MAY 19 from 1:00-3:00

→ SKYDANCERS CONT'D. FROM P. 10

didn't see him, I did get a glimpse into his world at the edge of the night. Robins were chuckling, small creatures rustled the leaves, and two great blue herons flew up our valley from Lake Garfield toward Royal Pond. The edge of the woods, the edge of the day; the wild creatures are most active then, and the woodcock is a bird on the edge of my awareness. I see him when winter changes to spring and day to night to day, where the woods change to fields. He is invisible, then visible, then gone—a shorebird who lives inland and is common in these parts, though he is rarely seen.

—Bonner McAllester

Hi Balloon Finder!

Our school is participating in the *Weekly Reader* Writing Pals Balloon Contest. Please put this message in an envelope along with your name, address and telephone number and the city and state in which you found my message. Then mail it to me at Otisville Elementary School, Otisville, N.Y. 10963. Tell your local paper that you heard from me. If you write me, I'll write back.

Otisville Elementary School is in the Minisink Valley District and is approximately six miles west of Middletown, N.Y. in Orange County. Our Balloons were launched this year on Wednesday, March 26.

—Mrs. Jean Fehn
Teaching Assistant

Dear Balloon Flyer,

Your balloon was found on April 1 on Gould Road in Monterey. Gould Road parallels Route 23, more or less, to the south. The area is wooded—maple, oak, hemlock, white pine. That may explain the fact that the balloon was shredded, as if it had caught in a branch during a strong wind.

Since we are located to the north and east of you, there must have been a goodly wind in that direction. This is somewhat unusual, but may explain the mild weather we enjoyed around April 1.

It may interest you to know that our neighbor town is named Otis. If your balloon had gone a little further, it could have landed there!

Yours
Loul McIntosh

cc *Monterey News*, Monterey, Mass.
Berkshire Eagle, Pittsfield

GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange No. 291 met April 2 for a Conservation Program in charge of Sisters Florence Brown and Eleanor Kimberly which consisted of slides on nature by Eleanor Kimberly and reading.

Plans were discussed for fund raising in the future. There will be a Conservation Exhibit during National Grange Week April 20-26 at the Monterey Post Office.

The Grange met again on April 16 for a regular meeting and a Country Store fund-raiser. Application for membership was accepted from Marilyn Waitford. Worthy Master Tabitha Butler recently took part in the degrees at Stockbridge Grange No. 295.

The next meeting will be May 7 when the 3rd and 4th degrees will be conferred and Deputy Orville Dyer will make his official visitation.

Monterey Grange will furnish the program at Sheffield No. 224 on June 3, and also at West Stockbridge No. 246 for Friendship Night June 16. Rehearsal for 3rd and 4th Degree will be April 30 at 7 p.m.

—Mary Wallace
Lecturer

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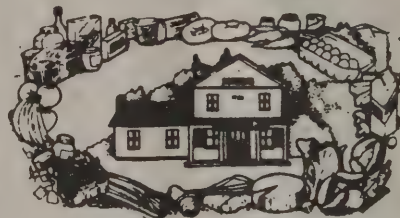
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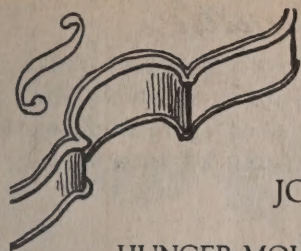
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

It is Springtime in the Berkshires. Flowers are up, the grass is green and the Town Meeting scene is in full bloom. There are a couple of dozen people working nightly trying to come up with a workable budget, a highway repair plan, machinery replacements and workable changes in the zoning by-laws. These are the workers in our community. They spend all day working to make their ends meet and spend all evening trying to make Monterey a better place to live.

For the last three years, I have been on several appointed boards and subcommittees. The months of February, March and April, my committees have been meeting three nights a week. I find it challenging, interesting and invigorating working on these committees. With your help, on May 3, I would like to continue my active role as your Selectman.

I urge all registered voters to come out and vote and all interested citizens to attend Town Meeting.

Sincerely
Rick Mielke

To the Editor:

We have saved the whales and the Bald Eagle from extinction! It was not easy! But it was done! Therefore, there is no reason why we should not be able to save the beauty and serenity of our New England small towns from extinction, for they too have moved onto the endangered species list.

As with the animals, our towns are attacked by humans, the kind that are blind to nature's beauty and oblivious to serenity.

Now, we have a duty to everybody to prevent the destruction through over-development of small towns which still have an ambiance of the 17th and 18th centuries that cannot be found in any other part of the country.

In the near future, we in Monterey have important decisions to make as to "controlled growth." For this reason alone we have to be prudent whom we choose as town officials.

Fortunately, Matt Williams, one of our candidates for the office of selectmen, has made it very clear that his commitment is to keep Monterey's small town charm alive in the face of increasing pressure by greedy developers.

Therefore, I suggest that a vote for Matt Williams is also a vote for the preservation of the uniqueness of our community.

—Lucie Lancome

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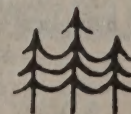
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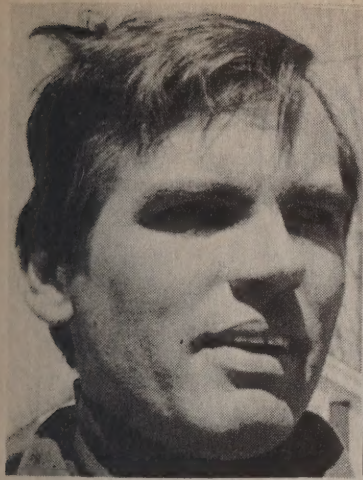
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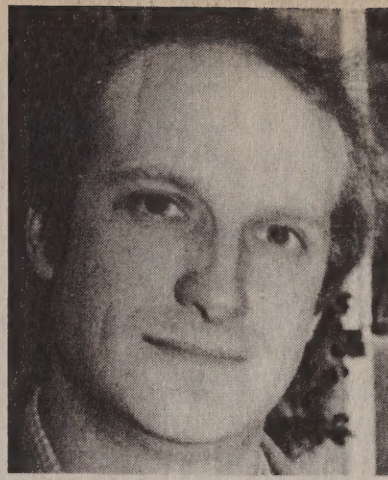
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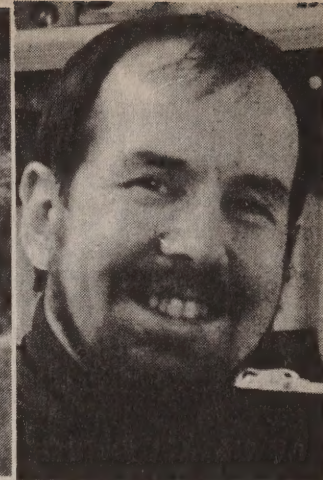
Rick Mielke



MATT WILLIAMS



DEB TILLET



Michael Banner

RICK MIELKE

Rick Mielke, Republican candidate for Selectman, has lived in Monterey for over 30 years. He is married to Deborah Dinan, and they have a daughter, Claire. He owns and operates a landscaping and maintenance business. He attended both of the Monterey schools, Corashire and Monterey Center School, and Marietta College and Westfield State.

He has served as chairman of the Roads and Machinery Subcommittee to establish the Highway Department's employee and operations policies. He has served also as chairman on the Salary Committee and is currently serving on the Roads and Machinery Committee.

MATT O. WILLIAMS

Matt Williams, 43, owns and operates Lee Side Lodge apartments on Route 57. He has been town treasurer for 2 ½ years and was a selectman from 1971 to 1974, when he moved from the area. He also served on the Conservation Commission and was a member of the Lake Buel Association. He is active in Teens in Action, a group that wants to establish a youth center in South County. An Army veteran who served in Korea, he has a bachelor's degree in sociology from Syracuse University in N.Y. He is the Democratic nominee. He is the father of three children.

Virgil Stucker, candidate for auditor, has lived in Monterey for 11 years. Originally from Wisconsin, he now lives and works at Gould Farm with his wife and four children. He attended Ripon College in Wisconsin and has done graduate work in business at UMass and Western New England College. He spent several years as treasurer of Gould Farm and that experience will help him in the position of auditor.

Maryellen Brown, candidate for treasurer, has lived in Monterey since 1965. She resides on Hupi Road with her two children. She attended the University of Massachusetts. She has been town secretary since 1984 and has been responsible for a large part of the town's paper work in that position.

Michael Banner, candidate for Assessor, and his wife, Maureen, live on Route 23 in the old Belle Weiss home. They operate "Banner Studio," a jewelry business, out of their home. Originating in Michigan, he moved here from Chicago in 1977, another refugee from the city. He plans to be permanent here and active in the community as he was active in municipal affairs in the city. He is interested in contributing to the well-being of this community and has been talking with the assessors who would welcome him as a productive third member on their committee. As Michael was out of town, more info was unavailable.

Judy Hays, candidate for the Library Committee, might be known to older residents as "Judy Shaw, Helen's daughter." She lives with husband Arnie and two grown daughters, in "Aunt Margaret's" house on Tyringham Road. (Aunt Margaret White, that is.)

She is really settled in, is active in our little Congregational Church, has sung with the Cobbletones for 5 years and loves reading and gardening.

Judy grew up in Monterey and Great Barrington and is a graduate of Searles High School and Westfield State Teachers College with a B.S. in Education. She taught full and part time until 1978, when she became Children's Librarian at Mason Library, where she is now employed. She has attended workshops and programs offered through Western Regional Library System and is associated on a daily basis with the working of a library.

"I feel that my practical experience in all phases of library operations would enable me to be a worthy Trustee of our small but excellent library. By working closely with the Librarian and our Trustees, I would strive to maintain a high standard of service to the community."

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IN ALL CREATURES, IN HERB AND GRASS,
KNEW GOD, WHO HE IS, HOW HE IS
AND WHAT IS HIS WILL.



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Except where noted otherwise, photographs are by Susan McAllester and drawings by Steve Maye

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, MARIE. AND THANKS FOR A GREAT 8 MONTHS!

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